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Message Text

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42
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 TRSE-00 EB-07 PM-04

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2772

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PL, US
SUBJECT: DIVIDED FAMILIES

1. I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF A CALL JULY 21 ON FOREIGN MINISTER OLSZOWSKI IN ANOTHER CONNECTION TO GIVE HIM A COPY OF THE LIST OF SIX DIVIDED SPOUSES, WHICH WAS HANDED BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN TO DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER SPASOWSKI ON JUNE 22, DURING THE VISIT OF SECRETARY SIMON. (THE LIST DEALS WITH THE APPLICATIONS OF JACEK DZIERZANOWSKI, JERZY STANISLAW KAWECKI, ANDRZEJ MAZUR, SYLWESTER STANCZAK, ZDZISLAW STANCZAK, AND JERZY STROJEK.) I SAID I WAS CONCERNED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO ACTION, SO FAR AS I WAS AWARE, ON ANY OF THESE CASES. I HAD BEEN VERY ENCOURAGED JULY 4, WHEN, DURING HIS REMARKS AT THE CEREMONY AT THE SEJM, FIRST SECRETARY GIEREK HAD DESCRIBED US-POLSIH RELATIONS AS BETTER THAN THEY HAD EVER BEEN. I HAD ALSO BEEN ENCOURAGED WHEN, EARLIER IN TODAY'S MEETING, THE MINISTER HAD REFERRED TO THE STRONG DESIRE OF THE POLISH GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE IMPORVING OUR RELATIONS. IN THAT CONNECTION, I WANTED TO POINT TO THE LACK OF PROGRESS WITH REGARD TO THESE CASES AND TO EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD LOOK INTO THEM AND SEE IF IT WERE NOT POSSIBLE TO MAKE SOME PROGRESS ON THEM.

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2. THE MINISTER SAID THAT, IN GENERAL, HE WAS NOT

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FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY THE CASES OF HUSBANDS WHO PERMITTED THEIR WIFES TO GO ABROAD AND THEN USED THEIR PRESENCE THERE IN AN EFFORT TO GO ABROAD THEMSELVES. HE SAID HE WOULD NEVERTHELESS LOOK INTO THESE CASES.

3. I SAID THAT ONE OF THE CASES WAS THAT OF MRS. KENNEDY-STROJEK, WHOSE HUSBAND HAD ONCE WORKED FOR THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE. IT WAS ON THIS BASIS THAT HE WAS BEING REFUSED A PASSPORT. I SAID I STRONGLY DOUBTED THAT MR. STROJEK WAS IN POS-SESSION OF WHAT THE MINISTER OR I WOULD REGARD AS MILITARY SECRETS; THE DENIAL OF A PASSPORT TO HIM APPEARED TO BE MORE THE APPLICATION OF BUREAUCRATIC RED-TAPE.

4. FINALLY, I SAID, I WISHED TO CALL THE MINISTER'S ATTENTION TO THE CASE OF ASSISTANT PROFESSOR JAN DE WEYDENTHAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA (COLUMBIA), WHO WISHED TO VISIT HIS AGED AND ILL MOTHER IN KRAKOW. HE WAS CONCERNED THAT THIS MIGHT BE HIS LAST CHANCE TO SEE HER. FOR REASONS OF WHICH I HAD NO IDEA, HIS APPLICATION FOR A VISA HAD BEEN TURNED DOWN.THERE WAS NOW CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN THE CASE. IT SEEMED TO ME THAT THERE WAS NO SENSE IN KEEPING THIS MAN FROM VISITING HIS MOTHER. I HOPED THE MINISTER WOULD SEE WHETHER IT WAS POSSIBLE TO GRANT HIM A VISA. THE MINISTER SAID HE WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE CASE, BUT WOULD LOOK INTO IT.

5. COMMENT: OUR EFFORTS TO WORK ON THESE CASES THROUGH THE CONSULAR DEPARTMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEPUTY MINISTER SPASOWSKI HAVE PRODUCED NO RESULTS. I BELIEVE THAT WE MUST NOW BEGIN TO INSIST AT A HIGHER LEVEL ON PROGRESS IN THIS FIELD. THE POLISH AUTHORITIES ARE NOT BASHFUL ABOUT ASKING US FOR HELP ON MATTERS OF CONCERN TO THEM (DANZIG GOLD AND CCC CREDITS ARE GOOD EXAMPLES). WITHOUT AT THIS STAGE LINKING THESE HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS WITH ANY OTHERS, I THINK WE MUST RAISE THEM WITH MINISTERIAL-LEVEL OFFICIALS WHENEVER WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY, BOTH HERE
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AND IN WASHINGTON. OTHERWISE, WE WILL GET NOWHERE.
END COMMENT.
DAVIES

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